

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

François Pachet et al.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on July 23, 2004, Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time, extending the period for response to January 24,

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2005 (January 23, 2004 being a Sunday). Applicants enclose herewith a check in the amount of \$1,020.00 as payment of the extension-of-time fee. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.

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